13. (New)   The image coding apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the first coding scheme is the H.263 standard and the second coding scheme is MPEG-4.

14. (New)   The image coding apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the first coding scheme is the H.263 standard and the second coding scheme is MPEG-4.

15. (New)   The image coding apparatus according to claim 10, wherein the first coding scheme is the H.263 standard and the second coding scheme is MPEG-4.

16. (New)   An image decoding apparatus for decoding a first coded bit stream into which first header information and image coded data encoded in a first coding scheme are multiplexed, or for decoding a second coded bit stream into which second header information and image coded data encoded in a second coding scheme are multiplexed, said image decoding apparatus comprising:

coding scheme decision means for making a decision as to whether a received coded bit stream is the frist coded bit stream or the second coded bit stream, based on a start code included in the first header information or in the second header informaiton;

decoding means for decoding image coding information on the second coding scheme included in the second header information by receiving the second coded bit stream; and

setting means for settting the image coding information on the second coding scheme, based on image coding information on the first coding scheme included in the first header information,

wherein said image decoding apparatus decodes the image coded data included in the first coded bit stream or in the second coded bit stream, based on the image coding information set by said setting means, the image coding information decoded by said decoding means and a result of decision by said coding scheme decision means. --